

Here begynneth the  
lyte of saynt Brandon





Saynt Brandon the holy man was a monke  
and borne in ylonde / & there he was abbot  
of an hous wherein were a thousande mon-  
kes / & there he had a full strayte & holy lyfe  
in great penaunce and abstynence and he gouerned his  
mōkes full vertuously / & than within shorte tyme after  
there came vnto hym an holy abbot þ̄ hyght Beryne to  
visyte hyf & echte was Joyfull of other & than saynt bran-  
don began to tell þ̄ abbot beryn of many wonders þ̄ he  
had seen in diuers lōdes & whan Beryn herd þ̄ of saynt  
Brandon he began to sygh & sore wepte / & saynt Bran-  
don cōforted hym þ̄ best wyse he coude saynge / ye come  
hyther for to be Joyfull with me / & therfore for goddes  
loue leue your moutnyng & tel me what metuayles ye  
haue seen in þ̄ great see ocean þ̄ cōpasseth al the world  
aboute / & all other waters come out of him / whiche co-  
meth in all the partyes of þ̄ erth / & than Beryn began to  
tell saynt Brandon & his monkes þ̄ metuayles þ̄ he had  
seen full sore wepyng / & sayd I haue a sone his name  
is Meruoke / & he was a monke of great fame / whiche  
had great desyre to seke about by shyppe in dyuers cōū-  
tries to fynde a solytary place / wherein he myght dwell  
secretly out of the besynes of this world for to serue god  
quyetly with more deuocōn / & I cōsyled hym to sayle  
in to an ylonde sette in þ̄ see besyde the mountayne of sto-  
nes whiche is ful well knowen. And than he made hym  
redy & saylled thyder with his monkes / & whan he cas-  
me thyder he lyked þ̄ place ful wel where he & his mon-  
kes serued our lord full deuoutly. And thā Beryn sawe  
in a byspon þ̄ this monke Meruoke was sayled ryght  
sette eastward in the see more than thre dayes saylunge  
& sodenly to his semynge there came a derke cloude &  
rouered them that a great parte of þ̄ daye they sawe no



light / & as our lord wolde the . . . away & they  
sawe a full fayre plonde / & thyder . . . they dyde / in  
þe plonde was Joy & myrth ynough & þe erth of þe plonde  
shyned as bryght as the sonne / & there were the fayrest  
trees & herbes þe euer ony man sawe / & there were ma-  
ny precyus stones shynyng bryght & euery herbe there  
was full of fygytes / & euery tree full of fruyte so that it  
was a glourous syght & an heuenly Joy tabyde there / &  
thā there came to them a fayre yonge man & full curtel-  
ly he welcomed them al & called euery monke by his na-  
me & sayd þe they were moche boude to prayse þe name of  
our lord Jhu þe wolde of his grace shewe to the þe glour-  
ous place wher is euer day & neuer night & this place is  
called paradys terrestre but by this plond is an other  
plond wherin no man may come / & this yonge mā sayd  
to them ye haue ben here halfe a yere wout mete dꝛyke  
or slepe / & they supposed þe they had not ben there þe spa-  
ce of halfe an houre / so mery & Joyful they were there &  
the yonge man tolde theym þe this is þe place that Adam  
& Eue dwelte in fyrste / euer sholde haue dwelled there  
yf þe they had not broke þe cōmaundement of god & than  
the yonge man brought them to the yꝛ myppe agayne &  
sayd they myght no lenger abyde there / and whan they  
were all mypped sodeynly this yonge man banysshed  
awaye out of the yꝛ syght / & than within shorte tyme af-  
ter by þe purueyauce of our lord Jhesu they came to þe  
abbay wher saynt Brandon dwelled / & than he with  
his bꝛethꝛen receyued them goodly & demaunded them  
wher they had be so longe / & they sayd we haue be in þe  
londe of byheest afore the gates of paradys wher as is  
euer day & neuer nyght & they sayd all þe the place is full  
delectable / for yet all the yꝛ clothes smelled of þe swete &  
Joyfull place. And than saynt Brandon purposed longe

after for to sek. And by goddes helpe / & anon he be-  
gan to puruey for a good shyppe & a stronge & bytaped  
it for seven yere / and than he took his leue of all his bre-  
therne & took .xli. monkes with hym / but oz they entred  
in to the shyppe they fasted forty dayes & lyued deuoute-  
ly and eche of them receyued the sacrament / and whan  
saynt Brandon with his .xii. monkes were entred in  
to the shyppe there came other two of his monkes and  
prayed hym that they myght sayle with him. And than  
he sayd ye may sayle with me but one of you shall go to  
hell oz ye come agayne / but not for that they wolde goo  
with hym. And than saynt Brandon bad the shypmen  
to wynde vp þe sayle & forth they sayled in goddes name  
so þe on the morowe they were out of syght of ony londe  
And forty dayes & forty nightes after they sayled playne  
east. And than they sawe an ylonde fette fro them. and  
they sayled thederwarde as fast as they coude & they  
sawe a grete rocke of stone appere aboue all the water  
and thre dayes they sayled aboute it oz they coude gete  
in to þe place. But at the last by the purueaunce of god  
they founde a lytell haven & there wente a londe enery  
chone and than sodenly there came a sayre hoūde & fell  
downe at the fete of saynt Brandon & made hym good  
chere in his maner / and than he badde his brethren be  
of good chere / for our lord hath sente to vs his messen-  
ger to lede vs in some good place / & the hoūde brought  
them in to a sayre halle where they founde the tabbles  
spredde redy set ful of good mete and drynke. And than  
saynt Brandon sayd graces / & thā he and his brethren  
sate downe and ete and drank of suche as they founde  
And there were beddes redy for them wherin they tooke  
thei rest after thei longe labour. And on the morne  
they retourned agayne to thei shyppe & sayled a longe



tyme in the see after oꝝ they coude fynde ony lōde tyl at  
the last by þ̄ puruysance of god they sawe ferre fro them  
a full fayre ylonde full of grene pasture wherin were þ̄  
whytest & gretest shepe that euer they sawe. For euery  
shepe was as grea: as an oxe & soone after came to them  
a goodly olde man / whiche welcomed them & made to  
them good chere / & sayd this is þ̄ ylonde of shepe & here  
is neuer colde weder but euer somer & that causeth the  
shepe to be so great & whyte they ete of the best grasse &  
herbes that is ony where & than this olde man toke his  
leue of them and badde them sayle south ryght east and  
within shorte tyme by goddes grace that they shold co-  
me in to a place lyke paradys / wherin they shold kepe  
they: eester tyde & than they sayled south & came soon af-  
ter to that londe but bycause of lytell depth in some plas-  
ce & in some place were great rockes but at the last they  
wente vpon an ylonde wenyng to them they had ben  
saufte & made thereon a fyre for to drysse they: dynet but  
saynt Brandon abode styll in the shyppe & whan þ̄ fyre  
was ryght hote & the mete nygh soden than this ylonde  
began to moue / werof the monkes were aferde / & fled  
anone to shyppe & lefte the fyre & mete behynde them &  
mcreuayled sore of the mounyng & saynt Brandon com-  
forted them and sayd that it was a great fysh he named  
Jalconie whiche laboured nyght & day to put his tayle  
in his mouth but for gretenes he may not. And than a-  
none they sayled west thre dayes & thre nyghtes oꝝ they  
sawe ony londe / wherfore they were ryghe heuy / but  
soone after as god wolde they sawe a fayre ylonde full  
of floures herbes & trees / werof they thanked god of  
his good grace / & anone they wente on londe / & whan  
they had gone longe in this they foude a full fayre well  
and therby stode a fayre tree full of bowes / & on euery

bough late a layre byrde / & they late to thycke on þe tree  
that bunneth on / lefe of the tree myght be seen the nom  
ber of them was so grete & they lauge so merly that it  
was an heuently noyse to here / wherfore saynt Brandon  
kneled downe on his knees & wepte for Joye / & made  
his prayers deuoutly to our lord god to knowe what  
these byrdes mente . And than anon one of the byrdes  
fledde fro the tree to saynt Brandon & he with flekeryn  
ge of his wynges made a full mery noyse lyke a fyde þ  
hym semed he herde neuer so Joyfull a melody / & than  
saynt Brandon comaunded the byrde to tell hym þ cause  
why they late so thycke on the tree & lauge so merly / &  
than the byrde sayd . Sometyme we were aungelles in  
heuen / but whan our mayster lucyfer fell downe in to  
hell for his hye pryde / & we fell with hym for our offen  
ces / some hyer / & some lower after the qualyte of the  
trespace & bycause our tce pace is but lytell therfore our  
lord hath set vs here out of all payne in full grete Joye  
& myth after his pleasyr here to sacre hy on this tree  
in the best maner we can / the sonday is a day of rest fro  
all worldly occupacyon / & therefore that daye all we be  
made as whyte as ony snowe for to praye our lord in  
the best wyse we may / & than this byrde sayd to saynt  
Brandon that it is .xii. monethes passed þ ye departed  
fro your abbey & in þ .vii. yere here after ye shal se þ pla  
ce þ ye desyre to come to / & all this .viij. yere ye shal kepe  
your ester here w þs euery yere / & in the ende of the .vii.  
yere ye shal come in to þ lond of byhest / & this was on  
ester daye þ the byrde sayd these wordes to saynt Bran  
don / & than this byrde felle ayen to his felowes þ late  
on þ tree / & than all the byrdes began to syng eue longe  
so merly that it was an heuently noyse to here / & after  
louper saynt Brandon & his felowes wente to bedde &



Slepte well / & on the moorne they awoke at tymes / & theſe  
chole byrdes began matyngs prynces & houres & all ſuche  
ſeruyce as cryſten men uſe to ſynge / and ſaynt Brandon  
with his felowes abode there . viii . wekes tyll crynpte  
ſondaye was paſt / & they ſayled agayne to þe ylonde of  
ſhepe / & there they brytayed the wel / & ſyth toke theyr  
leue of that olde man & retourned agayne to ſhyppes / &  
than the byrde of the tree came agayne to ſaynt Bran-  
don / & ſayd I am come to tell you that ye ſhall ſayle fro  
heng in to an ylonde wherin is an abbey of . xxiij . mon-  
kes which is fro this place many a myle / & there ye ſhal  
holde your cryſt mas & your eſter with vs lyke as I tol-  
de you / & than this byrde flew to his felowes agayne .  
And than ſaynt Brandon & his felowes ſayled forth in  
the ocean / & ſoone after fell a grete tempeſt on them / in  
whiche they were gretly troubled longe tyme & ſore for  
laboured / & after that they founde by the purueaunce of  
god an ylonde whiche was ferre fro the ym / & than full  
mekely prayed to our lord to ſende the thyder in ſaufte  
but it was . xl . dayes after or they came thyder / wherfor  
all the monkes were ſo wery of that trouble that they ſet  
lytel pryce by theyr lyues / & cryed cōtynually to our lord  
to haue mercy on them & brynge them to the londe in  
ſaufte / & by purueaunce of god they came at þe laſte in to  
a lytell hauē / but it was ſo ſtrayte þe bynneth the ſhyppes  
myght come in / & after they came to an ancre / & anon þe  
monkes wente to londe / & whan they had longe wal-  
ked aboute at the laſt they founde two fayre welles / that  
one was fayre clere water / & that other was ſom what  
troubly & thicke . And than they thanked our lord full  
humbly that had brought them thyder in ſaufte & theyr  
woldes fayne haue dronken of þe water / but ſaynt Bran-  
don charged them they ſholde not take without lycence

For yf we absteyne by a whyle our lordes wyll puruaye  
for vs in the best wyse. And anon after came to them  
a fayre olde man with hoze here & welcomed them full  
mekely & kyssed saynt Brandon & ledde them by many  
fayre welles tyl they came to a fayre abbey / where they  
were receyued with great honour & solempne processy  
on with .xxiij. monkes all in ryall copes of cloth of golde  
and a ryall crosse was before them. And than the abbot  
welcomed saynt Brandon & his felawshyp and kyssed  
them full mekely / & toke saynt Brandon by the honde &  
ledde hym with his monkes in to a fayre hall / and sette  
them downe a rowe vpon the benche / and the abbot of  
the place wysshed all theyr fete with fayre water of the  
well that they sawe before / & after ladde them in to the  
scatour and there sette them amonge his couent & anon  
there came one by the puruoyaunce of god / whiche  
serued them well of mete and drynke / for euery monke  
had set before hym a fayre whyte lose and whyte robes  
and herbes whiche were ryghte delycious / but they  
wyste not what robes they were / & they drank of the  
water of the fayre cleere well y they sawe before whan  
they came fyrst to londe whiche saynt Brandon forbo  
de them. And the abbot came and chered saynt Bran  
don & his monkes and prayed them ete and drynke for  
charyte / for euery daye our lordes sendeth a goodly olde  
man that couereth this table and setteth out mete and  
drynke tofore vs / but we knowe not howe it cometh / ne  
we ordeyne neuer no mete ne drynke for vs / and yet we  
haue ben .lxxx. yere here / & euer our lordes wooshypped  
be he fedeth vs / We be .xxiij. monkes in nombre & eue  
ry feryall daye of y weke he sendeth to vs .xii. loues &  
euery sondaye & feestfull daye .xxiiij. loues / & the byede  
that we leue at dyner we ete at souper / & now at your



comynge our lord hath sente to vs. xlviij. lottis for to  
make you & vs mety togder as brethren & al way. xij.  
of vs go to dynet whyles other. xii. kepe the quere / and  
thus haue we done this. lxxx. yere / for so longe haue we  
dwelled here in this abbey And we came hyder out of  
thabbey of saynt Pattrykes in yrlonde. And thus as ye  
se our lord hath purueyed for vs / but none of vs kno  
weth how it cometh but god alone to whome be gauen  
honour & laude world without ende. And here in this  
lond is euer sayre wedet / and none of vs hath ben seke  
syth we came hyder / & whan we goo to masse or to ony  
other seruyce of our lord in the chyrche / anone seuenta  
pers of waxe ben set in the quere & ben lyght at euery ty  
me without mannes honde / & soo brenne dape & nyght  
at euery houre of scrupce and neuer waste ne mynyll he  
as longe as we haue den here whiche is. lxxx. yere. And  
than saynt Brandon wente to the chyrche with the ab  
bot of the place and there they sayd euenlonge togder  
full deuoutly. And than saynt Brandon looked bpwar  
de towarde the crucifyxe / & sawe our lord hangynge  
on the crosse / whiche was made of fyne crystall & cury  
ously wrought. And in the quere were. xliii. sectes for  
xliii. monkes & the seven tapers brennyng / and þat ad  
bottes sect was made in the myddes of the quere. And  
than saynt Brandon demaunded of the abbot how lon  
gethey had kepte that scplence that none of them spake  
to other. And he sayd this. xliii. yere we spake neuer  
one to another / & than saynt Brandon wepte for Joye  
of thei holy conuersacon. And than saynt Brandon  
desyred of the abbot that he & his monkes myght dwel  
there still with him. To whome the abbot sayd. Syr  
that may ye not do in noo wyse for our lord shewid to  
you in what maner that ye shall beguyded tyll the scue

þere be fulfilled & after that terme thou shalt with thy  
monkes retourne in to ylonde in saulte / but one of the  
two monkes that came last shall dwell in the ylonde of  
ankers / & that other shall go quye to hell. And as saynt  
Brandon kneled in þe chyrche he sawe a bryght shynyn-  
ge angell / came in at the wyndowe and lyghted all the  
lyghtes in the chyrche. And than he flewe out agayne  
at the wyndowe to heuen / & than saynt Brandon mer-  
ueyled greatly how the lyght brenned so fayre & wasted  
not. And than the abbot sayd that it is wyten þe Moyses  
sawe abusshe all on fyre / & yet it dyde not breune / &  
therfore meruayle not therof / for þe myght of oure lorde  
is now as great as euer it was. And whan saynt Bran-  
don had dwelled there fro crystmalle eue tyll þe twelfth  
daye was passed. Than he toke his leue of the abbot &  
the couent & returned with his monkes to his shyppe  
and sayled fro thens with his monkes to warde the ab-  
bay of saynt Helare. But they had great tempestes in  
the see fro that tyme tyll palme sondaye. And than they  
came to the ylonde of shepe & there were receyued of the  
olde man whiche brought them to a fayre hall & serued  
them. And on the erthursdaye after souper he washed  
theyr fete & kyssed them lyke as our lorde dyd to his dys-  
ciples. And there abode tyll saterdaye eester euen. And  
than they departed & sayled to the place where the gres-  
te fyllshe laye / and anonie they sawe theyr caudron vpon  
the fyllshes backe / whiche they hadde lefte there the clu-  
monethes tofore / and there they kepte the scrupce of þe  
resurreccyon on the fyllshes backe and after they sayled  
that same day by the moynynge to the ylonde where as  
the tree of byrdes was. And than the sayde byrde wel-  
comed saynt Brandon and all his felawshyp / and wen-  
te agayne to the tree and sang full meryly / & there he



and his monkes dwelled fro easter tyll trynyte sondaye  
as they dyde the yere before / in full great Joye & myrth  
And dayly they herde y<sup>e</sup> mercy seruyce of the byrdes syt  
tyng on the tree. And than the byrde tolde vnto saynt  
Brandon that he sholde retourne agayne at crystmasse  
to the abbey of monkes / & at easter thyder agayne / and  
the other dele of the yere labour in the ocean in full gre  
te perilles / and fro yere to yere tyll the seuen yere be ac  
complyshed. And than shall ye come vnto the Joyfull  
place of paradys and dwell there. xl. dayes in full grete  
Joye and myrth / and after ye shall retourne home in to  
your owne abbey in saufe and there ende your lyf and  
come to the blysse of heuen / to whiche our lorde bought  
you with his p<sup>re</sup>cious blode. ¶ And than y<sup>e</sup> aungel of  
our lord ordeyned all thynge that was nedefull to saynt  
Brandon and to his monkes in bytayles and all other  
thynge necessarye to them. ¶ And than they thanked  
our lorde of his grete goodnes he had shewed to theym  
ofte in theyr grete nede and sayled forth to the grete see  
ocean abidyng y<sup>e</sup> mercy of our lorde in grete trouble  
and tempestes and sone after came to them an horryble  
fyllge whiche solo wed the shyppe longe tyme castinge  
so moche water out of his mouthe in to the shyppe that  
they supposed to haue be drowned / wherfore they de  
uoutely prayed god to deliuer them of that grete perill  
And anone after came an other fyllh grete thā he out  
of the west see and faught with hym / & at the last claue  
hym in thre pyeces & than retourned agayne And than  
they thanked mekely our lorde of theyr deliuerance  
fro this grete perill / but they were in grete heynnes by  
cause theyr byrales were nyghe spent / but by the ordy  
naunce of our lorde there came a byrde and brought to  
them a great braunche of a vyne full of rede grapes / by

Whiche they lyued. xlii. dayes / & than they came too a lyt-  
tell plonde / wherein were many bynes full of grapes / &  
they there lounded & thaked god / & gadzed as many gras-  
pes as they lyued by. xl. dayes after al wape saylyng in  
the see in moche storme & tempest / & as they thus sayled  
sodeynly came sleynge toward them a grete grype whi-  
che assayled them & was lyke to haue destroyed theym  
wherfore they deuoutely prayed for helpe & ayde of our  
lorde Ihesu cryste. And than the byrde of the tree of the  
plonde where they had holden theyr Ester to fore. CAME  
to þe grype & smote out both his eyen / & after slewe  
hym / wherfore they thanked our lorde. And than say-  
led forth contynually tyll saynt Peters daye. And than  
longen they solempnely theyr seruyce in the honout of  
the feest. And in that place the water was so clere that  
they myght se all the fysshes þe were aboute them wher-  
of they were full fore agast / and the monkes counseyled  
saynt Brandon to synge no more. for all the fysshes lay  
than as they had slebe. And than saynt Brandon sayd  
Drede ye not for ye haue kepte by two resters the feest of  
the resurreccion vpon the grete fysshes backe / and ther-  
fore drede ye not of these lytell fysshes. And theie saynt  
Brandon made hym redy & wente to masse & badde his  
monkes to synge the best wysse they coude / and than as  
none al the fysshes awoke and came aboute the wypppe  
so thicke that bnneth they myght se the water for the  
fysshes / & whan the masse was done all the fysshes de-  
parted soo as they were no more seen. And seven dayes  
they sayled al wape in that clere water. And than there  
came a southe wynde & droue the wypppe northwarde  
wher as they sawe an plonde full derke and full of sten-  
che & smoke / & there they herde grete blowynge and bla-  
wyng of belowes / but they myght se noo tyngge but



herde great thonderinge wherof they were sore aferde  
and blyssed them ofte / & soone after there came one ster-  
cynge out all brenynge in fyre and stared full gally on  
them with great starynge eyen / of whome the monkes  
were agaste / & at his departynge fro them he made the  
ho:pyblest crye that myght be herde / & soone there came  
a great nombre of fendes & assayled them with hokes &  
brennyng p:on mallets / whiche ranne on the water so  
lowynge they: shyppe fast in suche wyse that it semed  
all the see to be on a fyre / but by the pleasure of our lord  
they hadde noo power to hurte ne greue them ne they:  
shyppe wherfore the fendes began to roze and crye and  
threwe hokes and mallets at them / and they than were  
sore aferde & prayed to god for cōforte & helpe for they  
sawe y fendes al aboute the shyppe & them semed than  
all the plonde & the see to be on a fyre / & with a sorowful  
crye all tho fendes departed fro them / & retourned to y  
place that they came fro. And than saynt Brandon told  
to them that this was a parte of hell / & therfore he char-  
ged them to be stedfaste in the fayth for they sholde yet  
se many a dredefull place oz they came home agayne / &  
than came the south wynde & droue theym ferther in to  
the north where they sawe an hylle all of fyre / & a foule  
smoke & stench compynge fro thens / & the fyre stode on  
eche syde of the hyllyke a wal all brennyng and than  
one of his monkes began to crye & wepe full sore & sayd  
that his ende was comen & y he myght abyde no len-  
ger in the shyppe / and anone he lepte out of the shyppe  
into the see & than he cryed and rozed full p:trously cur-  
synge the tyme that he was bo:ne & also fader & moder  
that begate hym bycause they sawe no better to his cor-  
recpon in his yonge age. For now I must go to perpe-  
tuall payne. And than the sayenge of saynt Brandon

was berefeyed that he sayd to hym whā he entred / ther  
fore it is good a man to do penaunce & forsake synne for  
the hour of deeth is incertayn And than anone the wynde  
de tourned in to the northe & droue the shyppe in to the  
south whiche sayled seuen dapes cōtynually. And than  
they came to grete arocke stondynge in the see / & thereon  
sate a naked man in full great mylerpe and payne. For  
the wawes of the see had so beten his body that all the  
fleshe was gone of / and no thyng left but synewes &  
bare bones. And whan the wawes were gone / there  
was a canuas that hynged ouer his heed whiche bette  
his body full sore with the blowynge of the wynde.  
And also there were two ore tonges / and a great stone  
that he sate vpon the whiche dyd to hym full great ease  
And than saynt Brandon charged hym for to tell hym  
what he was. And he sayd my name is Judas y<sup>e</sup> soll  
de our lord Ihesu cryste for. xxx. pengs whiche spyteth  
here soo wretchedly / howbeit I am worthy to be in  
the gretest payne that is. But our lord is so merciful  
that he hath rewarded me better thā I haue deserued  
For of ryght my place is in the brennyng fyre of helle.  
But I am here but certayne tymes of the yere that is  
fro crystmasse to twelfsch daye and fro easter to wptson  
tyde be paste and euery feestfull daye of our lady & euery  
ry laterdaye at none tyll sondaye that euen songe be do  
ne but all other tymes I lye styll in hell in full brenny  
ng fyre with Dilate / Herode & Cayphas therfore accur  
sed be the tyme that euer I knewe them And than Ju  
das prayed saynt Brandon for to abyde styll there all  
that nyght / and that he wolde kepe hym styll that the  
fendes sholde not fetch him to hell. And than he sayd  
to hym with goddes grace / thou shalt abyde here all  
this nyght And than he asked. Judas what cloth that



Was that henge ouer his heed & he iapd it was a clothe  
that he gaue vnto a lepre / whiche was bought with  
the money that he stole fro our lord when I bare his  
purse / wherfore it dooth to me full great payne now in  
betyng my face with the blowynge of the wynde. And  
these two oxe tongues that haue here aboute me I gaue  
them somtyme to two prestes to praye for me / them I  
bought with myn owne money / & therfore they ease me  
by cause the fyshes of the see gnawe on the & spare me  
And this stone that I lyt on laye somtyme in a desolate  
place / where it eased noo man / and I toke it thens and  
layde it in a foule waye where it dydde moche ease vnto  
them that wente by that waye. And therfore it easeth  
me now / for euery good dede shal be rewarded & euery  
euill dede shal be punysshed. And on the sonday agens  
even there came a great multytude of fendes blastynge  
and royrnge / & they bad saynt Brandon goo thens that  
they myghte haue theyr seruaunte Judas / for we dare  
not come in the presence of our mayster but yf we bryn-  
ge hym to hell with vs. And than sayd saynt Brandon  
I lette not you to do your maysters commaundement  
but by the powre of our lord Ihesu I charge you to le-  
ue hym this nyghte tyll to morowe. How dardest thou  
helpe hym that solde his mayster for .xxx. pens vnto  
Jewes / and caused hym also to dye y moost shamefull  
deth vpon the crosse. And than saynt Brandon char-  
ged the fendes by his passyon that they sholde not noye  
hym that nyght. And than y fendes wente theyr waye  
royrnge and cryenge towardes hell to theyr mayster y  
great deuyll / & than Judas thanked saynt Brandon so  
truefully that it was pyte to se and on the morn the fen-  
des came with an horryble noyse sayenge y they had  
that nyghte suffered great payne by cause they broughte

not Judas and sayd that he sholde suffre double payne  
the. vi. daye folowynge & they toke than Judas trem-  
blynge for fere w<sup>th</sup> them to payne. And after saynt Brā-  
don sayled south warde thre dayes & thre nyghtes & on  
the fryday they sawe an ylonde. And than saynt Brā-  
don began to synge & sayd I se þ ylonde wherin saynt  
Poule the heremyte dwelleth & hath dwelled there. xl.  
yere without mete & drynke ordyned by mannes bon-  
de / & they came to the londe saynt Poule came & welco-  
med them humbly he was olde & forgroven so that no  
man myght se his body Of whome saynt Brādon sayd  
wepyng / now I se a man that lyueth moze lyke an aū-  
gell than a man / wherfore we wretches may be asha-  
med that we lyue no better. Than saynt Poule sayd to  
saynt Brandon / thou arte better than I for our lord  
hath shewed to the moo pcurres than he hath done to  
me / wherfore thou oughtest to be moze praysed than I  
To whom sayd Brandon saynt / we be monkes & must  
labour for our mete. But god hath prouyded for the su-  
che mete as thou holdest the pleased / wherfore thou art  
moche better thā I. To whome saynt poule sayd som-  
tyme I was a monke of saynt Patrykes abbey in ylon-  
de & was warden of the place where as men entre in to  
saynt Patrykes purgatorye. And on a daye there came  
one to me & I asked hym what he was. And he sayd I  
am your abbot Patryke & charge the that thou departe  
fro hengs to mozne erly to the see syde & there thou shalt  
fynde a shyppe in to whiche thou must entre / whiche  
god hath ordyned for þ whole wyll thou must accom-  
plysh the / & so the nexte day I arose & wente forth & founde  
the shyppe in whiche he entred / & by the purueyſe of  
god I was brought in to this ylonde the leuenth daye  
after. And than I left the shyppe & wente to londe and



there I walked by & downe a good whyle. And than  
by the purueyance of god there came an otter goynge  
on his hynder fete & brought me a flynt stone & an yron  
to smyte fyre within his two fore clawes of his fete / &  
also he had aboute his necke great plente of fysshes whi  
che he caste downe befoze me & wente his waye and I  
smote fyre & made a fyre of styrkes & dyde sethe þ fysshe  
by whiche I lyued thre dayes. And thā the otter came  
agayne & brought me fysshe for other thre dayes & thus  
he hath done this .li. yere thozugh the grace of god / and  
there was a great stone out of the whiche our lord ma  
de to sprynge sayre water clere & swete / wherof I dryn  
ke dayly & thus haue I lyued one & fyfty yere & I was  
forty yere olde whan I came hyder & am now an hon  
dred and .xi. yere olde & abyde tyll it please our lord to  
sende for me and yf it please hym I wolde sayne by dys  
charged of this wretched lyfe / and than he hadde saynt  
Brandon to take of the water of the well & to cary in to  
his shyppe / for it is tyme þ thou departe for thou hast  
a great Journey to do for thou shalte sayle to an ylande  
whiche is forty dayes saylynge hens / where thou shalt  
holde thy cester lyke as thou hast done tofoze where as  
the tre of byrdes is & fro thens thou shalte sayle in to þ  
londe of byhest & shalt abyde there forty dayes. And af  
ter retourne home in to thy countre in saulte. And than  
these holy men toke leue eche of other & they wept both  
full sore & kyssed eche other. And than saynt Brandon  
entred in to his shyppe & sayled euē .xl. dayes southe in  
full great tempest. And vpon easter euen came to theyr  
pcuratour whiche made to them good chere as he had  
befoze tyme & from thens they came to the great fysshe  
where they sayd matyns & masse on ester dawe / & whan  
the masse was done the fysshe began to incue & swāme

forth fast in to see wherof the monkes were sore agast  
whiche stode vpon hym / for it was a great miruaple co  
se such a fyllhe as great as al a countree for to swyme  
soo faste in the water / But by the wyll of our lord this  
fyllhe let all the monkes a londe in the paradysse of byz  
des all hole & soude. And than retourned to the place he  
came fro. And than saynt Brandon & his monkes than  
ked our lords of theyr delpueraunce of the great fyllhe &  
kept theyr cester tyde tyll trynyte sondaye lyke as they  
had done tofore tyme & after this they toke their shyppe  
and sayled east. xl. dayes / & at the forty dayes ende it be  
gan for to hayle ryght fast. And therewith came a derke  
myste the whiche lasted longe after whiche sered saynt  
Brandon & all his monkes & prayed vnto our lord for  
to helpe them. ¶ And than anone came theyr procura  
tour & badde them to be of good chere for they were to  
men in to the londe of byhest. And sone after that myst  
passed awaye / and anone they sawe the sayrest countree  
eastwarde that ony man myght se & was soo cleere and  
bryght that it was an heuently syght to beholde. And al  
the trees were charged with rypp fruyte & herbes full  
of floures. In whiche londe they walked forty dayes  
but they coude not se none ende of that londe and there  
was all way day & neuer nyght / & the londe was attem  
perate / ne to hote ne to colde. And at the laste they came  
to a fayre ryuer / but they durst not goo ouer. And there  
came to them a fayre ponge man & welcomed them cur  
tously & called ech of them by his name & dyde great re  
uerence to saynt Brandon and sayd to them be ye now  
Ioyfull / for this is the londe that ye haue sought. But  
our lord wyll that ye departe hastily & he wyll shewe  
to you moze of his secretes whan ye come agayne in to  
the see / & our lord wyll that ye lade your shyppe with



the fruyte of this londe and hve you hens. For ye may  
no leger abyde here / but thou shalt sayle agayne in to  
thyn owne countre. And soone after that thou comest  
home thou shalt dye. And this water that thou seest  
here departeth the worlde a sondre. For on that other  
syde of this water may no man come that is in this lyfe  
And the fruyte that ye se here is alwaye thus tyme eue-  
ry tyme of y<sup>r</sup> yere / & alwaye it is here lyght as ye now  
se & he that kepeth our lordes hestes & comaundementes  
at all tymes shall se this londe or he do passe out of this  
worlde. And than saynt Brandon and his monkes tooke  
of that fruyte as moche as they wolde and also they  
toke with theym great plente of precyous stones. And  
than they toke theyr leue & wente to shyppe wepyng  
soze bycause they myghte noo lenger abyde there. And  
than they toke theyr shyppe & came home in to yrlonde  
in saufte / whome theyr bretherne receyued with ryght  
great Joye gyuenge thankynges vnto our lord. Whiche  
he had kepte them all that seuē yere fro many a payll  
and brought theym home in saufte. To whome be gy-  
uen honour and gloze worlde without ende. Amen.  
¶ And soo soone after this holy man saynt Brandon  
waxed seble & seke / & had but lytell Joye of this worlde  
but euer after that his Joye & mynde was in y<sup>r</sup> Joyes  
of heuen. And within shorte tyme after he beyng full  
of vertues departed out of this worlde vnto euclla-  
styngelyfe in heuē and was worshypfully buried in a  
fayre abbey / the whiche he hymselfe founded where our  
lord sheweth for this holy saynt many fayre myracles  
wherfore let vs deuoutly praye to this holy saynt that  
he praye for vs to our lord that he haue mercy on vs to  
whome be gyuen laude honour and empyre worlde.  
withouten ende. Amen.

**T**hus endeth the lyf of saynt Brandon. Emprynted  
at London in the fletestrete at the syngge of the sonne.  
By Wynkyn de Worde.





